GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2200
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006
CROPS UNDER MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE
Murmu Shri Rupchand;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Minimum Support Price is not available for all crops;

(b) if so, whether the Government has proposed to extend support price cover to all crops;

(c) if so, the details thereof, crops-wise;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure stability in the prices of the agricultural produces for which Minimum Support Prices are not fixed; and

(e) the action plans formulated by the Government for the welfare of the small and marginal farmers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The Minimum Support Price (MSP) is not available to all crops.

(b)&(c): The Government has no proposal to extend coverage of MSP to all crops.

(d): In order to protect the growers of horticultural commodities and perishable agricultural commodities from distress sales in the event of bumper crop, the Government implements the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). MIS is implemented for a particular commodity on the request of the State Government. Losses if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared between the Central Government and the concerned State Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North Eastern States). The amount of loss to be shared between the Central Government and the concerned State Government is restricted to 25 percent of the procurement cost.

(e): In order to increase production and productivity, the Government has taken several initatives like Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), enhancing institutional credit flow to the farmers, ensuring timely availability of quality inputs, accelerating diversification to high value crops including horticulture, optimizing the efficient utilization of available water resources through micro irrigation and enhancing the sustainability of dryland/rain fed farming systems, reforming agricultural markets, putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers, etc.